

1 8. A method in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the specific act of the
2 external client establishing a connection with the private corporate network comprises:

3 a specific act of the external client establishing a connection with a Virtual
4 Privacy Network (VPN) access server in the private corporate network.
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6 9. A method in accordance with Claim 8, wherein the VPN access server is
7 implemented on the same server machine as a proxy server that serves the private
8 corporate network.
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10 10. A method in accordance with Claim 8, wherein the VPN access server is
11 implemented on a different server machine than a proxy server that serves the private
12 corporate network.
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14 11. A method in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the public network
15 comprises portions of the Internet.
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1 12. In a computer program product for use in a network environment that
2 includes a public network such as the Internet and a private corporate network contained in
3 the public network, the public network including a client external to the private corporate
4 network, the computer program product for implementing a method of a communications
5 device of the external client establishing a secure connection over a public network to the
6 private corporate network without restricting the communications device to working
7 through the private corporate network, the computer program product including a
8 computer-readable medium having stored thereon computer-executable instructions for
9 performing the following;

10 a specific act of the external client establishing a connection with the private
11 corporate network over the public network using the communication device;

12 a specific act of the external client providing security to the connection;

13 a specific act of the external client maintaining a session that uses the secure
14 connection to communicate with the private corporate network; and

15 during at least a portion of the specific act of the external client maintaining
16 a session that uses the secure connection, a specific act of the communication
17 device retaining the ability to establish a separate and distinct connection with
18 another resource outside of the private corporate network.

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20 13. A computer program product in accordance with Claim 12, wherein the
21 computer-readable media comprises a tangible computer readable medium.

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23 14. A computer program product in accordance with Claim 12, wherein the
24 computer-executable instructions for performing the specific act of the external client

1 establishing a connection with the private corporate network comprises a Transmission
2 Control Protocol (TCP) module.

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4 15. A computer program product in accordance with Claim 14, wherein the
5 computer-executable instructions for performing a specific act of the external client
6 providing security to the connection comprises a Secure Socket Layer (SSL) module.

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8 16. A computer program product in accordance with Claim 12, wherein the
9 computer-executable instructions for performing a specific act of the external client
10 providing security to the connection comprises a Secure Socket Layer (SSL) module.

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12 17. A computer program product in accordance with Claim 12, wherein the
13 computer-executable instructions for performing a specific act of the external client
14 providing security to the connection comprises a Wireless Transport Layer Security
15 (WTLS) module.

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17 18. A computer program product in accordance with Claim 12, wherein the
18 computer-executable instructions for performing a specific act of the external client
19 providing security to the connection comprises a module that reside at or above the socket
20 layer in a protocol stack.

1 19. In a network environment that includes a public network such as the
2 Internet and a private corporate network contained in the public network, the public
3 network including a client external to the private corporate network, a method of a
4 communications device of the external client establishing a secure connection over a public
5 network to the private corporate network without restricting the communications device to
6 working through the private corporate network, the method comprising the following;

7 a step for securely connecting to the private corporate network while
8 retaining the ability to establish a separate and distinct connection with a resource
9 outside of the private corporate network; and

10 during at least a portion of the step for security connecting, a specific act of
11 establishing a connection with the resource outside of the private corporate
12 network.

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14 20. A method in accordance with Claim 19, wherein the step for securely
15 connecting to the private corporate network comprises the following:

16 a specific act of the external client establishing a connection with the private
17 corporate network over the public network using the communication device;

18 a specific act of the external client providing security to the connection;

19 a specific act of the external client maintaining a session that uses the secure
20 connection to communicate with the private corporate network; and

21 during at least a portion of the specific act of the external client maintaining
22 a session that uses the secure connection, a specific act of the communication
23 device retaining the ability to establish a separate and distinct connection with
24 another resource outside of the private corporate network.

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21. A method in accordance with Claim 11, wherein the public network
comprises portions of the Internet.

a specific act of using Transmission Control Protocol (TCP), to facilitate the establishment of a connection with the external client.

25. A method in accordance with Claim 22, wherein the specific act of the server computer system facilitating the providing of security to the connection comprises:

a specific act of using Secure Socket Layer (SSL), to facilitate the providing of security to the connection.

26. A method in accordance with Claim 22, wherein the specific act of the server computer system facilitating the providing of security to the connection comprises:

a specific act of using Wireless Transport Layer Security (WTLS), to facilitate the providing of security to the connection.